

Message Text

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67

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 DHA-02 /067 W

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R 021515Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0172

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR GW AR BR CI

SUBJECT: MOERSCH VISIT TO ARGENTINA, CHILE AND URUGUAY

BEGIN SUMMARY. THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE MOERSCH WILL MAKE A TEN DAY TRIP BEGINNING JULY 3 TO CHILE, URUGUAY AND ARGENTINA. THE FOREIGN OFFICE ANTICIPATES NO CONCRETE RESULTS FROM THE TRIP. END SUMMARY.

1. THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE MOERSCH PLANS TO DEPART BONN JULY 3 FOR SANTIAGO, BUENOS AIRES, AND MONTEVIDEO IN THAT ORDER. HE WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE POLITICAL DIRECTOR FOR THE THIRD WORLD (AND FORMER AMBASSADOR TO CHILE) LAHN.
2. THE FOREIGN OFFICE HAS DESCRIBED THE TRIP TO US AS A GOOD WILL TRIP. MOERSCH WILL VISIT THESE THREE COUNTRIES SIMPLY BECAUSE THEY HAVE NOT BEEN VISITED RECENTLY BY HIGH-LEVEL FRG OFFICIALS. MOERSCH WILL UNDERTAKE NO NEGOTIATIONS AND WILL SIGN NO AGREEMENTS.

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3. IN BACKGROUND BRIEFINGS WHICH ARE SCHEDULED TO BE

PUBLISHED TOMORROW THE FOREIGN OFFICE HAS STRESSED THAT THE TRIP WILL BE A FACT-FINDING MISSION. IT HAS POINTED OUT THAT THERE HAS BEEN SIZEABLE GERMAN EMIGRATION TO THESE THREE COUNTRIES IN THE PAST, THAT GERMAN INVESTMENTS ARE IMPORTANT, AND THAT THE THREE COUNTRIES SUPPLY IMPORTANT RAW MATERIALS, ESPECIALLY CHILE.

4. MOERSCH ARRANGED THAT HIS VISIT WOULD NOT BE ANNOUNCED, NOR THE BACKGROUNDERS PUBLISHED, UNTIL HE HAD LEFT BONN. HE DID NOT WISH TO BE CRITICIZED FOR VISITING THESE COUNTRIES IN THE FACE OF LEFTIST CONCERN OVER THEIR RECORD ON HUMAN RIGHTS. MOERSCH HAS INDICATED THAT HE INTENDS TO ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE THE THREE GOVERNMENTS DISCREETLY ON HUMAN RIGHTS, BUT HE WISHES HIS EFFORTS TO REMAIN NON-CONTROVERSIAL. HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

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